IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH
AT HYDERABAD

(Special Original Jurisdiction)

MONDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF NOVEMBER
TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE DR JUSTICE G.YETHIRAJULU

WRIT PETITION NO : 14707 of 2004

Between:

K. Srikanth, S/o. Badraiah,
R/o. Paloncha, Khammam District.

..... PETITIONER

AND

1 The Managing Director, APGENCO, Vidyut Soudha, Hyderabad.
2 The Executive Director (HR) APGENCO, Vidyut Soudha, Hyderabad.
3 The Chief Engineer, KTPS-V Stage, APGENCO,
Paloncha, Khammam District.

.....RESPONDENTS

Petition under Article 226 of the constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the Affidavit filed herein the High Court will be pleased to issue a Writ, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the respondents in issuing impugned circular Memo No. CEE/O&M/KTPS-V/Adm/F.29E/D.No.768/2004, dated 29-7-2004 for filling up the post of Sub-Engineer by appointment by transfer as highly illegal, arbitrary and contrary to the service regulations apart from contrary to the directions issued by this Hon'ble Court in C.C.No.1527/2002 and batch, 18-4-2002 and consequently set aside the same

Counsel for the Petitioner:MR.G.V.SHIVAJI

Counsel for the Respondents: SMT.K.SESHARAJYAM

The Court made the following :

O R D E R:

The petitioner is contending that he previously worked as a contract labour. In pursuance of a notification dated 02-01-1999 he appeared for the selection to the post of Sub-Engineer in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, but the respondents have appointed other candidates, without considering the case of the petitioner, on the basis of weightage given to those selected candidates. Some of

the candidates have filed a batch of writ petitions, and this Court directed the respondents to review the selection. When the direction of this Court was not implemented, contempt petitions were filed, and this Court through the order dated 18-04-2002, permitted the respondent-Board to go ahead with the appointments as per the selection list dated 21-01-2002, but, if any of the candidates who filed contempt petitions subsequent to the interim orders or final orders of this Court in the writ petition, their names have to be deleted from the list and selected candidates and who have filed contempt petitions with the leave of the Court after the disposal of the Writ Petition No.23439 of 1999 and batch shall have to be kept in the selection list.

2 . The petitioner further contended that after the judgment of this Court, the respondents have not taken any steps for implementation of the order, on the other hand, they invented a new method of filling up the posts of Sub-Engineers, by accommodating the inservice candidates and in pursuance of that, the respondents issued a Circular dated 29-07-2004, notifying that the appointments by transfer would be taken up for inservice candidates. They further contend that when the order of this Court was very clear that after exhausting the candidates from the merit list in the direct recruitment only, the respondents should go for the recruitment by transfer. Since the respondents did not take any steps for making appointment of direct recruits, and have resorted to go for appointment by transfer of the inservice

candidates, the petitioner, approached this Court, through this writ petition, seeking to declare that the Circular dated 29-07-2004 issued by the 3rd respondent for filling up post of Sub-Engineers by appointment by transfer, as illegal, arbitrary and contrary to the service regulations and consequently, to direct the respondents to implement the directions, issued by this Court in C.C.No.1527 of 2001 and batch.

3. The respondents are contending that the method of recruitment for the category of Sub-Engineers is in two ways, one is by direct recruitment, and another is appointment by transfer. The learned counsel for the respondents drew the attention of this Court to B.P.(P&G-Per.) Ms.No.58, dated 06-05-1993 of the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board. As per the said order, the method of recruitment for the category of Sub-Engineer shall be (a) direct recruitment, and (b) appointment by transfer from among the categories, as mentioned in Para-2 (iii).

4. The learned counsel for the respondents submitted that since the second type of recruitment is also a direct recruitment by transfer and it is not a promotion, therefore, the respondents, after completing the process of the appointment by transfer, would take up the process by direct recruitment. She further submitted that since the appointment by transfer is also a form of recruitment, it should also be treated as the second category of direct recruitment. Therefore, the question of violation of the order of this Court in C.C.No.1527 of 2001 does not arise.

5. The Order of this Court in C.C.No.1527 of 2001 at page-4 reads as follows:

> "1. The Board is permitted to go ahead with the appointment orders as per the selection list, dated 21-01-2002. But, however, if any of the candidates who filed contempt cases subsequent to the interim orders or final orders of this Court in writ petitions, their names have to be deleted from the list and selected candidates who have filed contempt cases with the leave of the Court after the disposal of the writ petition No.23439 of 1999 and batch, shall have to be kept in the selection list.
>
> 2. The Board shall scrutinize the certificates, which were filed by the petitioners pursuant to the orders of this Court, up to 04-02-2002 and prepare a merit list. The Board is also directed to consider their cases sympathetically to absorb them in preference to others for the post of Sub-Engineers and Plant Attendants as per their qualifications. As and

when the Board goes for fresh recruitment, the Board shall appoint the petitioners on priority basis and then only it has to go for fresh recruitment."

6. After going through the order of the respondent-Board and the order of this Court, it is clear that the appointment by transfer, cannot be treated as a direct recruitment, and as there is a specific direction from this Court that the appointment by transfer shall be made only after exhausting candidates from among the direct recruits, by preparing a merit list of such candidates.

7. In the light of the specific direction of this Court in the Order dated 18-04-2002 in C.C.No.1527 of 2001, the notification, issued by the 3rd respondent, issued in pursuance of the Circular dated 29-07-2004, is liable to be quashed.

8. Accordingly, the Writ Petition is allowed. Circular dated 29-07-2004, issued by the 3rd respondent is quashed. The respondent Board is directed to consider appointment of the candidates from merit list and as per the direction of this Court given earlier in C.C.No.1527 of 2001. After compliance of the direction of this Court only, the respondent Board is at liberty to go for recruitment by transfer.

_____

8th November, 2004

mrb

To

1 The Managing Director, APGENCO, Vidyut Soudha, Hyderabad.

2 The Executive Director (HR) APGENCO, Vidyut Soudha,

Hyderabad.

3 The Chief Engineer, KTPS-V Stage, APGENCO,

Paloncha, Khammam District.

5. Two CD copies.

6. One CC to Mr.G.V.Shivaji, Advocate (OPUC)

7. One CC to Smt. K.Shesharajyam, Advocate (OPUC)